

WEED MANAGEMENT PLAN

PROPERTY NUMBER _____ PROPERTY ADDRESS _____

LANDHOLDER/S NAME _____

ENVIRONMENT OFFICER/S _____

DATE OF SITE VISIT _____

ACUP NUMBER (IF APPLICABLE) _____

INFORMATION

WHAT IS A WEED?

Weeds are plants growing in a place they aren't wanted. They compete with other plants and can invade natural bushland, grassland, riverside habitats (riparian areas) and farmland. This compromise and reduces biodiversity value and reduce agricultural productivity. Weeds take many years to control and require follow up and integrated treatment.

STEPS TO DEVELOP A WEED MANAGEMENT PLAN

1. Identify the weeds
2. Map weed location and extent of infestations
3. Research the weeds (when is the best time to control, what is the best control method?)
4. Develop a weed management plan, including prioritising weeds for treatment.
5. Determine the resources required to implement a weed control plan (time and budget).
6. Determine the equipment you require and/or engage a suitably experienced and qualified contractor
7. Implement
8. Ongoing maintenance and monitoring (including before and after photos)

WEED IDENTIFICATION AND CONTROL METHODS

[The Central Victorian Weed Guide](#) will assist with identification and control methods. You can also contact Council's Environment Team or Agriculture Victoria for assistance.

CONTROL OPTIONS

The most effective way to control weeds is with an integrated approach. This involves attacking the infestation via several techniques depending on the time of year or the particular life stages of the weed, e.g. mature plants vs. seedling.

Some control methods are listed below (further details can be found in [The Central Victorian Weed Guide](#))

- > Grooming
- > Slashing or mowing
- > Grazing
- > Chemical control with appropriate herbicide
- > Cut and paint
- > Cultivation
- > Introducing Competition
- > Manual removal



For chemical control it is important to always read and heed the label. A Chemical user's licence is required for the use of some chemicals and chemical registers will need to be kept. More information about chemical users licences can be found on the [Agriculture Victoria website](#).

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



It is important to note that earthworks may require a planning permit and any damage to native vegetation via chemicals, earthworks or works near waterways could be a breach of local, state, or federal legislation.

LOCAL CONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS

A list of local contractors and suppliers that may be able to assist implement your weed management plan can be supplied on request.

LEGISLATION

All landholders must manage the spread of declared noxious weeds, as required by the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 (CALP Act 1994)*. The Act covers the classification and general control of noxious weeds.

There are four levels of noxious weeds identified in the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 (CaLP Act 1994)*. Each has its own requirements for landholders. The categories are:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| > State Prohibited | The Victorian State Government is responsible for the eradication of these weeds on all land and water. |
| > Regionally Prohibited | The relevant land manager is responsible for the eradication of these weeds. |
| > Regionally Controlled | The relevant land manager is responsible for prevention of growth and spread of these weeds. |
| > Restricted | The relevant land manager is responsible for preventing trade or spread (by contamination) of these weeds. |

In addition, there are also:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| > Agricultural weeds | Plants that impact on the productivity or viability of crops, pasture, or livestock |
| > Environmental weeds | Invasive plants that have an impact on bushland by competing for resources. |

More information can be found on the Agriculture Victoria Website - <https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/biosecurity/weeds/invasive-plant-classifications>

MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL LOCAL LAW

In addition to the State legislation in June 2022 Mitchell Shire Council introduced local law 3.1.3

“An owner or occupier of all land, must take all reasonable steps to control, reduce and manage regionally prohibited weeds, prevent the growth and spread of regionally controlled weeds, * and prevent the spread as far as possible of pest animals”*

*Regionally prohibited weeds as defined under the CaLP Act 1994 Part 8.

Pest Animal Control

Under the CALP Act all landowners have a responsibility to take all reasonable steps to prevent the spread of – and as far as possible eradicate – established pest animals from their land. Removal of weeds and pest harbour will aid with this.

In Victoria, feral or wild populations of rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) are declared as established pest animals under the [\(CALP Act\)](#)

For more information go too the Agriculture Victoria website:

<https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/biosecurity/pest-animals/invasive-animal-management/integrated-rabbit-control>

WEED CONTROL PLAN

DATE DEVELOPED: _____

WEED SPECIES		LOCATION DESCRIPTION (ALSO ATTACH MAP)	CONTROL			DATE	COMMENTS
COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME		CONTROL METHOD (SPRAY, MANUALLY REMOVE, INTRODUCE COMPETITION	WHEN (season)	WHO (e.g. landholder or contractor)		
Example - Gorse	<i>Ulex Eurpeous</i>	North boundary fence	Groom to remove biomass.	Autumn 2023	Contractor		
			Chemical control of regrowth	Summer 2023	Contractor		
			Grazing to control seedling growth	Autumn 2024	Landholder		

PROVIDE A WEED MAP

Insert (or attach) a sketch or an aerial photo of your property and mark weed infestations.

PROVIDE PHOTO/S OF TARGETED WORKS AREA PRIOR TO STARTING TREATMENT *

Six months from this signed and dated report, please repeat photo/s to show evidence of dead or dying weeds and send to mitchell@mitchellshire.vic.gov.au with landholder name & property number from letter.

BEFORE TREATMENT

Insert (or attach)

I acknowledge that I have read and understand the management actions required within this plan. I understand that it is my responsibility as the landowner to control weeds on my property.

Name _____

Signature _____ **Date** _____

The approval of this plan does not constitute approval for any works that may require a permit or permissions including native vegetation removal, earthworks or works on waterways etc. The landholder is encouraged to check if permits are needed prior to commencing works that may impact native vegetation or waterways with Council Statutory Planning Department.

DUE DATE: This report is due three (3) weeks from date of letter or by the due date within body of letter – whichever occurs first.

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORM (with any photo attachments):

- mitchell@mitchellshire.vic.gov.au
- Reference: Weed Management Plan – ‘property number and address’.

OFFICE USE ONLY	
Assessed by Mitchell Shire Council Officer	Date
Comments	